

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SONNING PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 JULY 2016 AT
6.30PM THE PAVILION, POUND LANE, SONNING.**

PRESENT: Mr A E Farnese (Chairman), Mrs S Jacobs, Mrs P Pownall. 1 Visitor.
Mrs L Bates (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mr T Fisher (holiday) Mr P Morrison and Mr I Runnalls (both at a previous engagement).

AGENDA

- a) Present.
- b) Apologies for Absence
- c) Declaration of Interest
- d) Minutes of 4 July 2016 to approve.
- e) Updates.
- f) 20 Old Bath Road (161648). Erection of a two storey side and rear extension to dwelling and reposition of existing garage. To agree comments. Deadline 21/07/16.
- g) Microsoft (161733). Advertisement consent for the erection of 1no internally illuminated suspended logo sign and 1no non-illuminated wall mounted aluminium panel sign. To agree comments. Deadline 27/07/16.
- h) 43 West Drive (161755). Erection of a single storey rear extension to dwelling plus front extension to create garage space. To agree comments. Deadline 27/07/16
- i) Conservation Area Assessment.
- j) Any matters considered urgent by the Chairman.
- k) Date of the Next Meeting.

1647. DECLARATION OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS.

In the absence of Mr Runnalls Mr Farnese agreed to chair the meeting. There were no declarations of interest.

1648. MINUTES.

The Minutes having been circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

1649. UPDATES.

The Chairman said that a fence had been erected around Keepers Cottage on the Golf Club site but it offered little protection. There were no new approvals or refusals and a number of applications were outstanding. A new application for the Great House had been received and the Chairman mentioned that it appeared that staff were living in one of the listed cottages belonging to the Great House. Plans for the following outstanding applications had not been received, 43 West Drive (161755), 42 Old Bath Road (161887), Reading Blue Coat School (161860), Chestnut House, Mustard Lane (161970), Fairlawn, Thames Street (162015), 75 Pound Lane (162047).

1650: 20 OLD BATH ROAD (161648).

The Chairman said that he had spoken to Mr Runnalls. The proposal was almost identical to a previous proposal (152751) but the roof had been lowered slightly and the garage was integral to the house rather than being detached. The Council had recommended refusal of 152751 and WBC had agreed with the Council's assessment and had robustly refused the application. The Chairman said that the original house was well placed on the plot but the proposal would place it very close to both side boundaries. The increased height of the roof would be out of proportion and dominate the dwelling. Following discussion it was agreed

to recommend refusal and to quote the WBC reasons for refusal of the previous application and resubmit the comments made on the earlier application recommending refusal.

1651: MICROSOFT (161733).

The Chairman said that the application was for advertisement consent but it appeared to be for an onsite CO-OP convenience store. It wasn't clear if the shop was existing or if it already had planning permission or required planning permission. Following discussion it was agreed to say that there were no objections to the advertisement but to question the status of the shop and there were concerns about it attracting business, and traffic, from outside the Microsoft campus.

1652: 43 WEST DRIVE (161755).

The Chairman said that he had spoken to the neighbour, who had no objection. The proposal was for a single storey rear extension, set well away for the boundaries and a first floor dormer extension. Following discussion it was agreed to say no comment.

1653: CONSERVATION AREA ASSESSMENT.

There had been no further developments since the reply from Clare Lawrence had been received. The S & SE Society were happy with Ms Lawrence reassurances about the status of the CAA as were SPC.

1654: MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman asked Mrs Jacobs to report on the meeting arranged by Eye and Dunsden to hear a visiting speaker, David Bullock, the OCC Highways Engineer, giving a progress report about the work done on the scheme to raise the level of the Playhatch Road. They could not progress without evidence of strong local support and the E & D Chairman had urged as many local people to attend as possible. Mrs Jacob said that she had attended together with the Chairman and Mr Runnalls but unfortunately the speaker hadn't turned up so there was little to report on the Playhatch scheme. A local farmer had concerns about the effect raising the road would have on gullies and there was some talk about the third Thames Bridge, which E & D were not supporting.

1655: DATE OF THE OF THE NEXT MEETING. The next meeting would be held on Monday 1 August at 6.30pm.

Signed.....Dated.....